

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 7, 8, and 13. These claims have been retained in dependent form in view of the allowability of their respective base claims, Claims 1 and 12, as discussed below.

Claims 1-16 are pending, with Claims 1, 11, 12, and 14-16 being independent. With the exception of Claims 7, 8, and 13, all of the claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) to Cho.

Without acceding to the rejection, independent Claims 1, 11, 12, 14, and 15 have been amended to clarify the invention intended to be claimed and are believed to be patentable over Cho, at least in their present form. Independent Claim 16, which was editorially revised, is also patentable over Cho, as will be discussed below.

As noted above, independent Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the invention intended to be claimed. Specifically, independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of selecting, depending upon a status of the phase input signal, one of a second error signal output from the phase detector and a new signal generated based on the stored pulse width property measurement for supply to the voltage controlled oscillator to maintain the frequency of the voltage controlled oscillator. It is apparent that Cho

fails to teach or suggest at least this feature of Claim 1. Therefore, Claim 1 distinguishes patentably from Cho and should now be allowed.

Claims 11 and 12, while of different scope than Claim 1, have been amended in a manner similar to Claim 1 and are allowable at least for reasons similar to those presented above for Claim 1.

Claim 14 has been amended to include the feature of selectively supplying, to the voltage controlled oscillator, one of a second error signal output from the phase detector and the calibration reference signal, depending upon a status of the phase input signal. It is apparent that Cho also fails to teach or suggest this feature of Claim 14. Therefore, Claim 14 distinguishes patentably from Cho and should now be allowed.

As to Claims 15 and 16, Applicant notes that the rejection makes no apparent attempt to apply Cho to the actual features of those claims. Nor does Cho teach or suggest the features of Claims 15 and 16.

For example, Claim 15 recites a method of implementing clock holdover in a phase-locked loop circuit, wherein the method comprises, *inter alia*, determining whether the measured pulse width property of the error signal output from the phase detector satisfies a predetermined condition over a predetermined period of time, and storing the measured pulse width property depending upon whether it satisfies the predetermined condition. Claim 16 recites a

method of qualifying a potential clock reference for a phase-locked loop circuit, wherein the method comprises, *inter alia*, determining a relative frequency measurement of the potential clock reference relative to the system clock, and determining whether the potential clock reference would lock the phase-locked loop from the determined relative frequency measurement and a VCO frequency output determined from a measured pulse width property of an error signal output from the phase detector. Cho fails to teach or suggest at least these features of Claims 15 and 16.

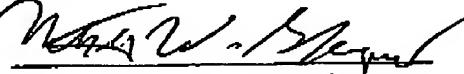
As to the dependent claims, Claims 2-10 and 13, these claims are allowable at least based on their respective dependence from Claims 1 and 12.

In view of the forgoing, Applicant respectfully solicits a Notice of Allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (A-10048) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing

of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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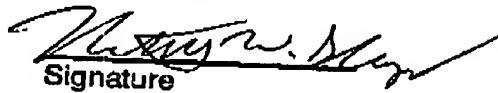
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